

16 August 2022

Ms. Jolie Harrison, Chief Permits and Conservation Division Office of Protected Resources National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225

> Re: Permit Application No. 25987

(Jim Darling, Ph.D.,

Whale Trust)

Dear Ms. Harrison:

The Marine Mammal Commission (the Commission), in consultation with its Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals, has reviewed the above-referenced permit application with regard to the humaneness and bona fide criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Commission believes that the proposed activities meet these requirements and recommends that NMFS issue the permit, as requested. Kindly contact me if you have any questions concerning the Commission's recommendation.

Sincerely,

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D.,

Peter o Thomas

Executive Director